

clear blue sky, fully 15° high, and very slender, scarcely the diameter of the sun.

After the sun had set in a golden sky it became of a rosy hue, brighter and broader at some places than others, as if the brightest strata, or thin laminae of the horizontal clouds, reflected the sunbeams most perfectly. It continued quite perpendicular, and about half-past 9 o'clock, or 45 minutes after sunset, vanished gradually—the last spot of it being 1 or 2 degrees above the horizon. About an hour afterwards, when the moon rose, a pillar of light also appeared over her, but fainter and shorter, and after 30 minutes when she had risen a little above the horizon, a similar pillar appeared below her, but they only extended about 3 or 4 diameters of the moon on each side, having her diameter as a base, and tapering away as they receded from her. This continued till 12 o'clock and probably much longer.

I am told that the sun pillar was again very beautiful before sunrise next morning, about 3 o'clock.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR MAY 1853.

Chiswick.—May 1. Very fine. 2. Slight haze : fine : rain at night. 3. Constant rain. 4. Hazy. 5. Very fine. 6. Cloudy. 7. Overcast : cold rain. 8. Cloudy : overcast : clear. 9. Rain : boisterous. 10. Cloudy and boisterous. 11. Fine. 12. Fine : very clear. 13. Cloudy : rain. 14. Fine. 15. Fine : overcast. 16. Very fine. 17. Dry haze : clear and fine. 18. Fine. 19. Very fine. 20. Clear : slight frost at night. 21. Hazy : fine. 22. Clear and dry. 23. Clear : partially overcast at night. 24. Cloudless : windy : slightly overcast. 25. Very fine. 26. Very fine : clear at night. 27. Very fine : rather hazy : lightning at night : rain. 28, 29. Very fine. 30. Cloudy and fine. 31. Cloudy and cold.

Mean temperature of the month	51°·41
Mean temperature of May 1852	51·45
Mean temperature of May for the last twenty-seven years .	53·95
Average amount of rain in May	1·77 inch.

Boston.—May 1, 2. Fine. 3, 4. Cloudy. 5. Fine. 6. Cloudy. 7. Cloudy : rain and snow A.M. 8. Cloudy. 9. Rain : rain A.M. 10. Rain : rain and hail A.M. and P.M. 11, 12. Fine. 13. Cloudy. 14, 15. Fine. 16. Cloudy. 17—28. Fine. 29. Cloudy : rain P.M. 30, 31. Cloudy.

Sandwich Manse, Orkney.—May 1. Bright A.M. : damp P.M. 2. Hazy A.M. : fog P.M. 3. Clear A.M. : clear, aurora P.M. 4. Bright A.M. : fog P.M. 5. Damp A.M. and P.M. 6. Cloudy, showers A.M. : sleet-showers, aurora P.M. 7. Snow-showers A.M. : sleet-showers, aurora P.M. 8. snow-showers A.M. : sleet-showers P.M. 9. Sleet-showers A.M. : snow-showers P.M. 10. Snow-showers A.M. : clear P.M. 11. Bright A.M. : clear P.M. 12, 13. Clear A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 14—17. Clear A.M. and P.M. 18, 19. Clear, fine A.M. and P.M. 20. Clear A.M. and P.M. 21. Bright, fine A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 22. Bright A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 23. Bright A.M. : sun pillar, clear, fine P.M. 24, 25. Bright, fine A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 26. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 27. Clear A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 28, 29. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 30. Bright A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 31. Bright, fine A.M. : clear, fine P.M.

Mean temperature of May for twenty-six previous years ...	47°·94
Mean temperature of May 1852	50·49
Mean temperature of this month	49·07
Average quantity of rain in May for seven previous years ...	1·68 inch.